

REMARKS

Receipt of the Office Action of May 24, 2004 is gratefully acknowledged.

The present amendments to the specification and claims is a bona fide attempt to place this application in condition for allowance.


As can be seen from Figs. 2 and 3 of the application, the interlacing of two different warp threads B and C with weft threads A is shown. The weak tensioned warp threads B and the somewhat loose warp threads C are interlaced with the weft threads A such that the warp threads C extend on and along the warp threads B in a zig-zag fashion to thereby provide a roughened or irregular surface having a plurality of spaced-apart nubs 111 that extend obliquely to the longitudinal direction of the fabric. The nubs are formed by the warp threads C that are raised by the warp threads B, and this arrangement yields the superior sliding resistant surface. See the attached annotated copy of Fig. 2 which clearly shows the oblique orientation.

The Campbell patent, on the other hand, discloses warp threads 12 and 13 with weft thread 14. The elastic warp thread 1 but runs below it on both sides of each weft thread 14. In addition, the portions of the elastic warp thread 12 that are raised by the underlying ***weft thread*** 14 generally extend ***in the longitudinal direction of the fabric*** and not obliquely thereto. See the annotated copy of Campbell being submitted herewith. Without the oblique relationship, the sliding resistance will definitely be adversely affected.

The claims have been amended to clearly recite this feature, so that claims 1 - 4 and 11 and 12 should now be allowed.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and re-examination are respectfully requested and claims 1 - 4, 11 and 12 should be indicated as being allowable over the art of record.

Respectfully submitted,



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